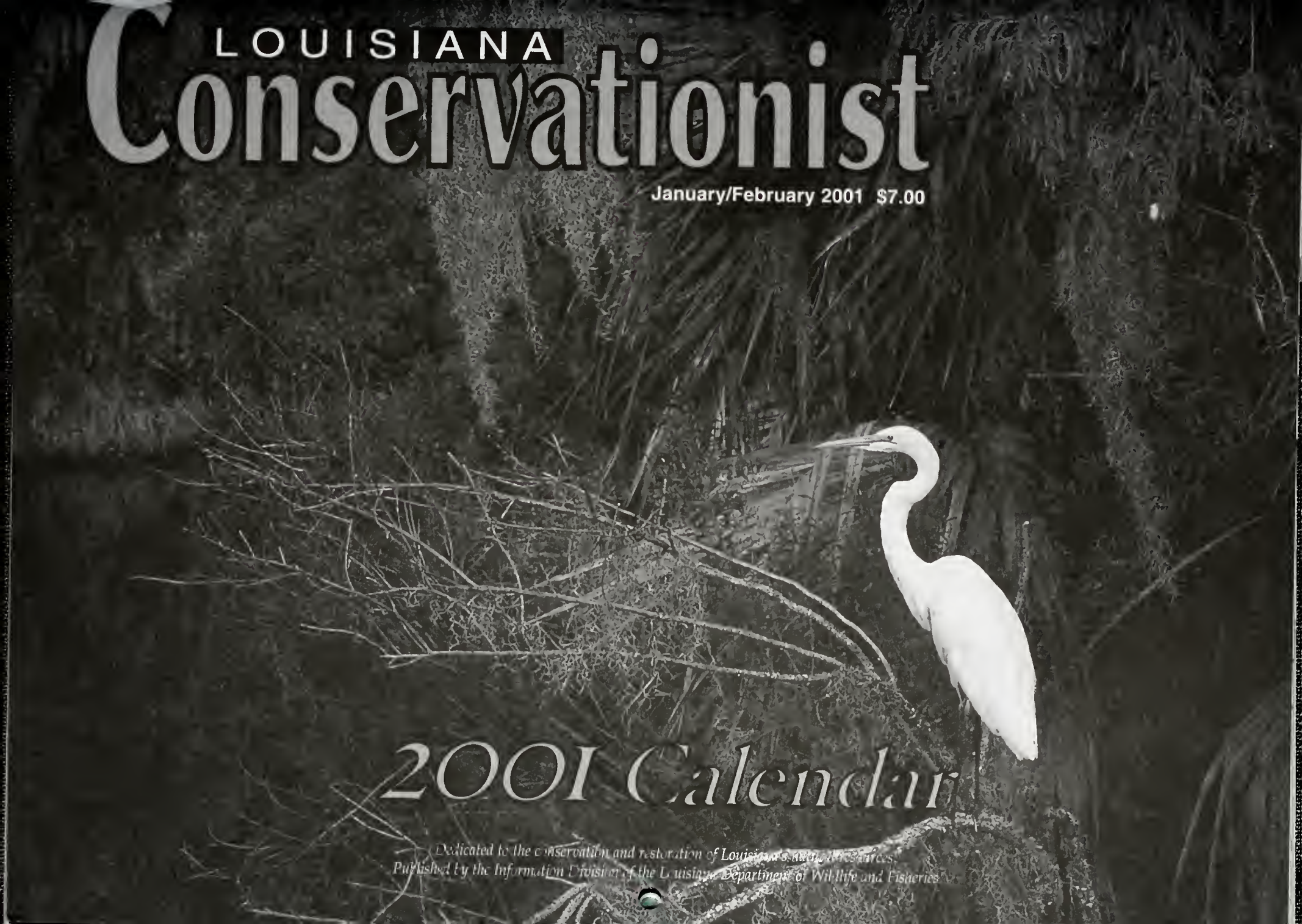
LOUISIANA Conservationist

January/February 2001 $7.00



2001 Calendar

Dedicated to the conservation and restoration of Louisiana's natural resources.
Published by the Information Division of the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

The *2001 Louisiana Conservationist Magazine Calendar* offers photographs portraying the vast variety of wildlife species, natural habitats and recreational opportunities throughout our state. These photos of serene swamps and waterways, state parks that afford ample outdoor activities and forests and prairies teeming with wildlife will serve as a daily reminder of the magnitude of Louisiana's natural resources.

We hope that the images represented here not only fill you with a sense of pride but with a sense of responsibility as well. This is our Louisiana and each one of us shares the task of protecting and preserving it.

We've done pretty well so far. The bald eagle, Louisiana black bear and American alligator pictured in this year's calendar have enjoyed successful comebacks because of the responsible actions of citizens like yourselves. And the wood duck and white-tailed deer are representative of game species whose populations thrive thanks to ethical hunting practices. Finally, the scenic shots like those of Caddo Lake and Grand Isle illustrate the natural beauty waiting to be seen in every corner of the state.

Enjoy these images and have a terrific year.

Louisiana Conservationist Magazine Staff

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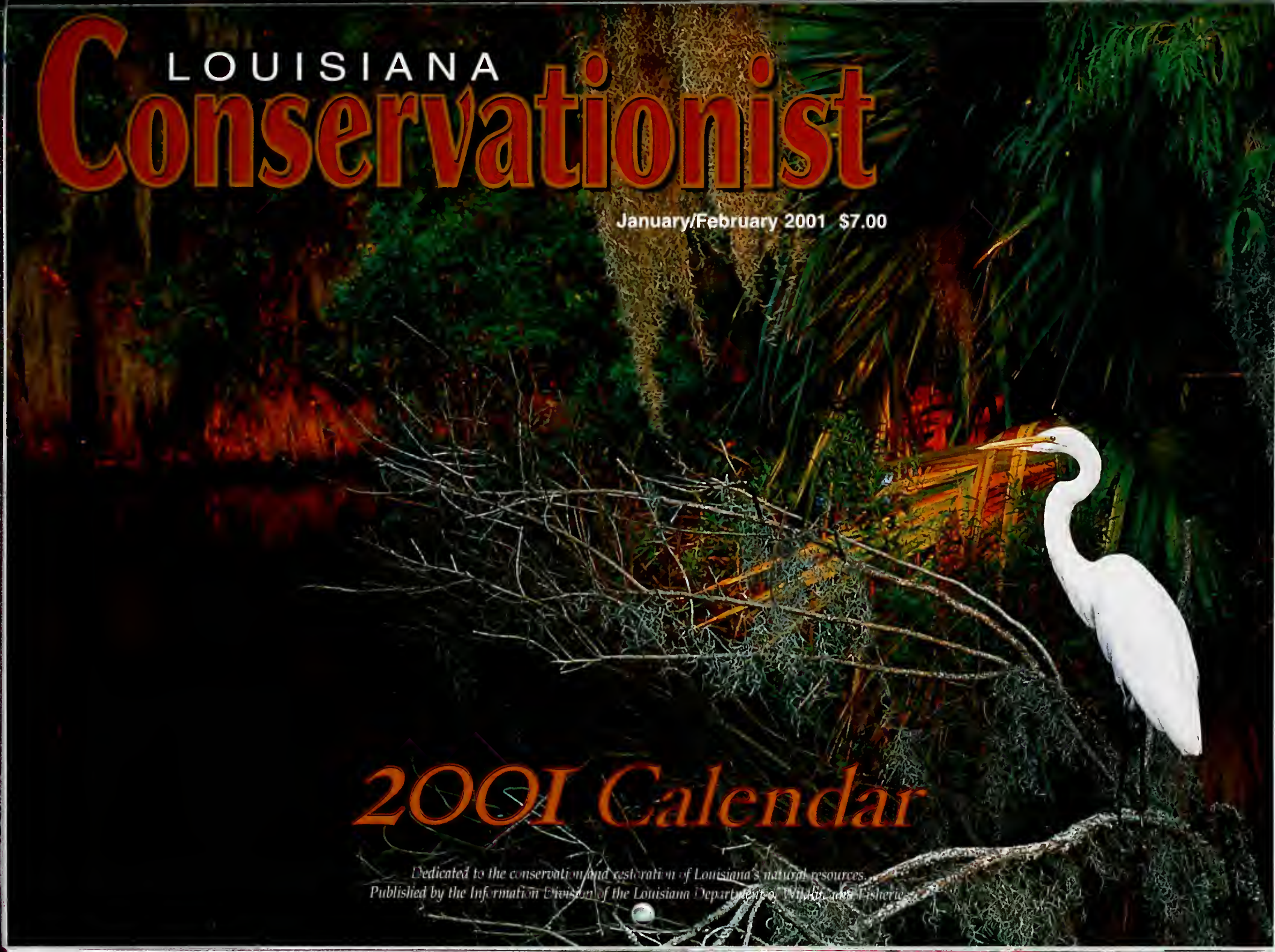

2001 Calendar

Dedicated to the conservation and restoration of Louisiana's natural resources.

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LA 3180 AK

January

Shrimp Boat on Lake Pontchartrain
photo by Alex Demyan

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	NEW YEAR'S DAY 1	2	3	4	5	6
7 *Crappie appear in river channels at Toledo Bend.*	8 *Resident Great Horned owls nesting.*	FULL MOON 9 *Peak waterfowl numbers in coastal Louisiana*	10 *Bald eagles begin nesting Report sightings to LDWF.*	11	12	13 *Gift subscriptions to Louisiana Conservationist are very affordable.*
14 *Large schools of crappie congregate in deep water.*	15 MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY	16 *Striped bass migrate up the Mississippi and Atchafalaya rivers.*	17 *Red berries persist on dormant deciduous holly and yaupon.*	18	19 *Clean and repair Purple Martin nest boxes.*	20 *Early nesting Wood Ducks search for tree cavities.*
21	22	23	NEW MOON 24	25 *Plant native trees and shrubs this month.*	26	27
28	29	30	31 *Peak number of Canada geese in southwest rice fields.* *Archery deer season closes in areas 1,2,4,5,6,7. Woodcock season closes..*		December / February	

December

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February

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2001

LOUISIANA CONSERVATIONIST

February

Black Bear (*Ursus americanus*) *photo by Gary Kramer*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
January S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	March S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31			1	GROUNDHOG DAY 2	3
4	5	*Opossums give birth this month.* 6	*Repair turtle traps.* 7	FULL MOON 8	9	*Clean and repair Eastern Bluebird nest boxes.* 10
Squirrel season closes. 11	*White bass begin spawning.* *Lincoln's birthday* 12	*Edible wild greens can be gathered in fallow fields.* 13	ST. VALENTINE'S DAY 14	*Over-wintering waterfowl begin migration northward.* 15	*Sac-a-lait schools breaking up. Armadillos give birth this month.* 16	*Purple Martins appear. Trophy bass fishing on False River.* 17
18	PRESIDENT'S DAY *Wild Turkeys begin to gobble on warm days.* 19	20	*Gulf sturgeon enter rivers to find suitable spawning habitat.* 21	*Washington's birthday* 22	NEW MOON *Big largemouth bass biting on crawfish at Toledo Bend.* 23	24
25	26	MARDI GRAS 27	ASH WEDNESDAY *Quail, rabbit and snipe seasons close.* 28			

2001

March

Eastern Wild Turkey (*Meleagris gallopavo*) Gobbler
photo by Scotty Lovett

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
February S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28	April S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30			*Deadline for DMAP harvest records.* *Wood Duck broods begin to appear.* 1	*Largemouth bass begin nesting.* 2	*Pink shrimp appear in Chandeleur Sound.* 3
4	5	6	*Mottled Ducks begin nesting.* 7	8	FULL MOON 9	10
Clean and hang hummingbird feeders. 11	*Eastern Bluebirds begin building nest.* 12	13	*Peak Wood Duck nesting.* 14	15	16	ST. PATRICK'S DAY 17
18	19	SPRING (VERNAL) EQUINOX 20	*Largemouth bass begin to spawn.* 21	*Northern Parula Warblers return from wintering grounds in Caribbean and Central America.* 22	23	*Areas A & C turkey seasons open.* 24
Tubular red and yellow flowers of red buckeye visited by hummingbirds. *New Moon* 25	26	27	28	29	*Frog season closes.* 30	*Area B turkey season opens.* 31

2001

April

Swamp at LaPlace
photo by Kenneth A. Wilson

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
April Fool's Day Daylight Saving Time Begins Area C turkey season opens. Frog season closes for two months. 1	2	3	A life jacket is your friend for life. It won't work if you don't wear it. 4	5	Plan ahead for Mother's Day. Gift subscriptions to the Louisiana Conservationist are great gifts. 6	7
Palm Sunday Passover Begins Full Moon 8	Start weed control in farm ponds. Dewberries ripen this month. 9	Striped bass artificial spawning begins at Toledo Bend Hatchery. 10	Rare Swallow-tailed Kites return to the Pearl River Basin to nest. 11	Peak ingress of brown shrimp post larvae into Calcasieu Lake. 12	Good Friday 13	14
Easter Area B turkey season closes. 15	Collect mayhaw for jams and jellies. 16	Osprey begin nesting in south Louisiana 17	Rare lady slipper orchids, flower in mature hardwood forests in central and north Louisiana. 18	Large spawning-sized black drum enter estuaries. 19	Mottled duck broods appear. 20	Coastal migratory species such as Florida pompano and Spanish mackerel begin arriving. 21
Area A turkey season closes. 22	New Moon Commercial menhaden season opens. 23	Purple Gallinules arrive from South and Central America to begin nesting. 24	Alligator snapping turtles begin laying eggs. 25	Male alligators bellow in the marshes. 26	Peak crappie spawn at Toledo Bend. 27	St. Jude Children's Hospital Fishing Tournament Fundraiser, Diversion Canal, Amite River 28
29	Most Wild Turkey hens are on the nest. 30					

March

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May

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2001

May

Grand Isle State Park
photo by Alex Demyan

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
April S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30		1	2	*Wild blueberries ripening in piney woods.* 3	4	*Brown Pelican nesting in full swing.* 5
Plan ahead for Father's Day. Gift subscriptions to the Louisiana Conservationist are great gifts. 6	FULL MOON 7	*The graceful orchid, spreading pogonia, blooms until July in savannahs of southeast Louisiana.* 8	9	*Bluegill begin to bed up in southern parishes.* 10	*Burn longleaf stands to manage for pine snakes.* 11	*Beginning of summer-long spawning of spotted seatrout.* 12
MOTHER'S DAY 13	14	*Common water snakes become nocturnal for rest of summer.* 15	*Dewberries ready for picking.* 16	17	18	*Loggerhead turtles nesting on Chandeleur Islands. Wild turkey hatch underway.* 19
20	*Alligators breed.* 21	*Time to pick red mulberries.* 22	*Historical time of natural lightning fires in piney woods.* NEW MOON 23	24	*Plant browntop millet fields for doves.* 25	26
Young Red-cockaded Woodpeckers leave cavity nests. 27	MEMORIAL DAY (Observed) *Coastal Conservation Association S.T.A.R. tournament begins.* 28	29	*Peak bullfrog breeding activity.* *Memorial Day* 30	31		June S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30

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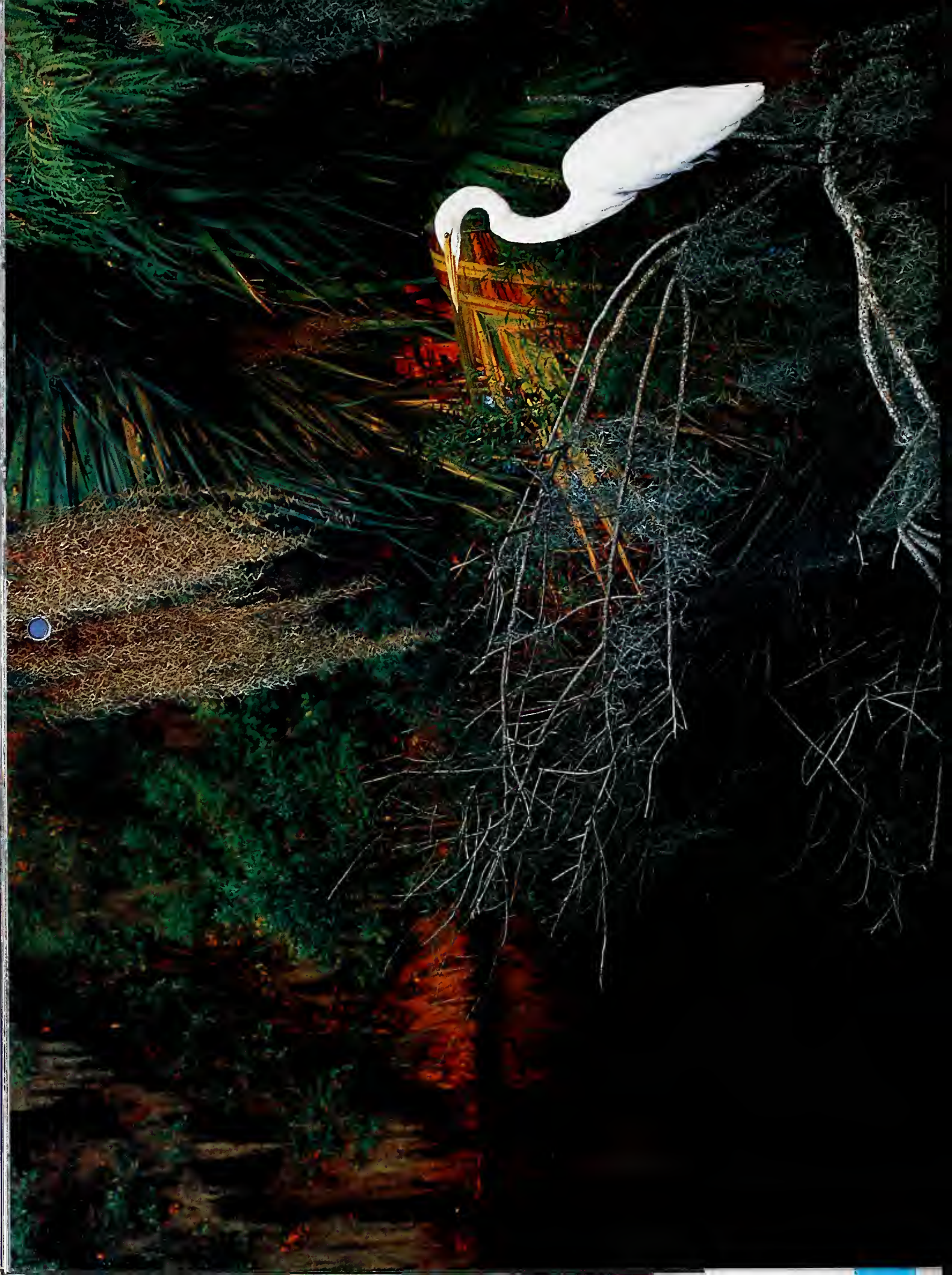

June

City Park, New Orleans *photo by Alex Demyan*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
May S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	July S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31				Issuing of 2001-2002 hunting and fishing licenses and recreational gear licenses begins. Frog season reopens. 1	Association of Louisiana Bass Clubs' Annual Youth Fishing Tournament, False River 2
Mottled duck banding begins. 3	Peak fawning season for Area 2. 4	5	Blackberries ripen this month. FULL MOON 6	Male cottonmouths battle for females. 7	8	Excellent night fishing on full moons during summer months. 9
Eastern coral snakes lay eggs. 10	11	Hybrid striped bass schooling. 12	13	FLAG DAY Chanterelle mushrooms fruiting in bottomland oak forests. 14	Bluebirds building nests again for second brood. 15	16
FATHER'S DAY 17	Diamondback terrapin season opens. 18	Purchase your Wild Louisiana Stamp and licenses by the end of the month. 19	Alligator nesting peaks this month. Statewide breeding bird surveys conducted this month. 20	NEW MOON SUMMER SOLSTICE 21	22	Wild Turkeys poults are flying and roosting in trees. 23
24	25	26	27	Last gopher tortoise eggs hatch. 28	2000-2001 sports and recreational gear licenses expire. 29	30

2001

Bald Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalaus*) *photo by Lynn Stone*

July

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	INDEPENDENCE DAY *Catahoula Lake drawdown begins. Pre-season Wood Duck banding begins.* 4	FULL MOON 5	6	*Commercial king mackerel fishery reopens.* 7
Blue crabs congregate along barrier island beaches. 8	9	10	11	12	*End of most Wood Duck and Wild Turkey nesting.* 13	*Gift subscriptions to Louisiana Conservationist are very affordable.* 14
15	16	17	18	19	NEW MOON 20	21
22	*Soft-shelled turtles finish laying eggs.* 23	24	*Shorebirds begin southern migration through the state.* 25	26	27	28
Rose gentian in bloom in prairies and pinelands. 29	30	31			June S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	August S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

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LOUISIANA CONSERVATIONIST

August

Caddo Lake
photo by Connie Thompson

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
July S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	September S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30		1	2	*Buy hunting licenses to avoid the rush.* 3	FULL MOON *Continue fall wildlife planting work.* 4
5	6	7	8	*Begin scouting hunting areas and check mast-producing trees.* 9	*Large numbers of Ruby-throated Hummingbirds pass through Louisiana to Central America.* 10	11
Get lanterns and gigs ready for flounders. 12	*Pig frogs calling from marshes.* 13	*First Blue-winged Teal and Pintail begin appearing.* 14	15	*Begin mowing strips through dove fields.* 16	*Peak fawning season in Areas 1 and 6.* 17	*Pygmy rattlesnakes give birth.* 18
NEW MOON 19	*Blue-winged Teal congregating on Catahoula Lake.* 20	21	*Bull redfish begin congregating near tidal passes.* 22	*Best largemouth bass fishing at night at Toledo Bend.* 23	*Family groups of Swallow-tailed Kites soaring over Pearl, Atchafalaya and Sabine river basins.* 24	25
26	*Muscadine grapes ripen throughout the state.* 27	28	*Timber rattlesnakes give birth.* 29	*Keep all guns and ammunition stored out of children's reach.* 30	31	

2001

September

Young American Alligator (*Alligator mississippiensis*) photo by Jerry Hennen

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
August S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	October S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31					DMAP application deadline 1
NEW MOON 2	LABOR DAY FULL MOON Coastal Conservation Association S.T.A.R. tournament ends 3	Baby smooth softshell turtles feed in shallows of rivers. 4	5	Bow hunters should practice for opening day. 6	First cool fronts initiate movement of flounder, redfish, sheepshead and black drum from marshes to deep waters. 7	8
Timber rattlesnakes give birth. 9	10	Go night fishing for crappie. 11	Peak migration/staging of tree ducks in marshes and rice fields. 12	White shrimp begin migration to the Gulf as water temperatures cool. 13	14	15
16	NEW MOON 17	ROSH HASHANAH Peak spawning for redfish. 18	Huge cooters bask on south shore of Lake Pontchartrain. 19	Time to plant winter wheat and clover food plots. 20	Box turtles foraging in hardwood forests. 21	Louisiana's National Hunting & Fishing Day AUTUMN EQUINOX 22
23/30	Peregrine Falcons return from northern breeding grounds. 24	Last gopher tortoise eggs hatch. 25	Mussel season closes 26	YOM KIPPUR 27	28	29

2001

Caddo Lake Sailboat *photo by Alex Demyan*

October

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	Archery and commercial hunting preserve seasons open. *Deadline for payment of DMAP fees* 1	*Full Moon* 2	3	4	*Gulf sturgeon migrate out of rivers into the gulf.* 5	*Squirrel season opens* 6
Bald Eagles return to Louisiana to nest. 7	*Columbus Day* *Clean and repair bird feeders.* 8	9	10	*Begin flooding rice fields for waterfowl.* 11	12	*White-fronted geese begin to arrive in southwest rice fields.* 13
Deer rut under way in Area 3. 14	15	*New Moon* *Speckled trout and redfish move to upper estuaries.* 16	17	18	*Yellow Rails arrive this month in southwestern fields and marshes.* 19	20
21	22	23	*Peak time for spotted bass fishing in Florida Parish rivers.* 24	*Oysters begin to store glycogen and fatten as water temperatures cool.* 25	*Neotropical birds move through the state.* 26	27
Daylight Savings Time Ends 28	29	30	*Halloween* 31			

September

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2001

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November

White-tailed Deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*) Buck
photo by R.E. Ilg

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
October S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	December S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31			ALL SAINTS DAY FULL MOON *Menhaden season closes.* 1	*Spotted salamanders begin egg-laying.* 2	*Begin flooding green tree reservoirs and Catahoula Lake.* 3
Major migration period begins for most waterfowl species. *Renewals sent to commercial license holders.* 4	*Largemouth bass begin moving away from the bank.* 5	6	7	*Seabobs begin appearing along coast.* 8	9	10
VETERANS DAY *Stock bluegill in new or renovated farm ponds.* 11	*Deer rut underway in Area 2.* 12	*Time to pick pecans.* 13	14	NEW MOON *Begin issuing commercial licenses for 2002.* 15	16	17
18	19	20	*Large flounder increasingly available for gigging along barrier islands.* 21	THANKSGIVING DAY 22	*Common Goldeneyes return to coastal Louisiana.* 23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

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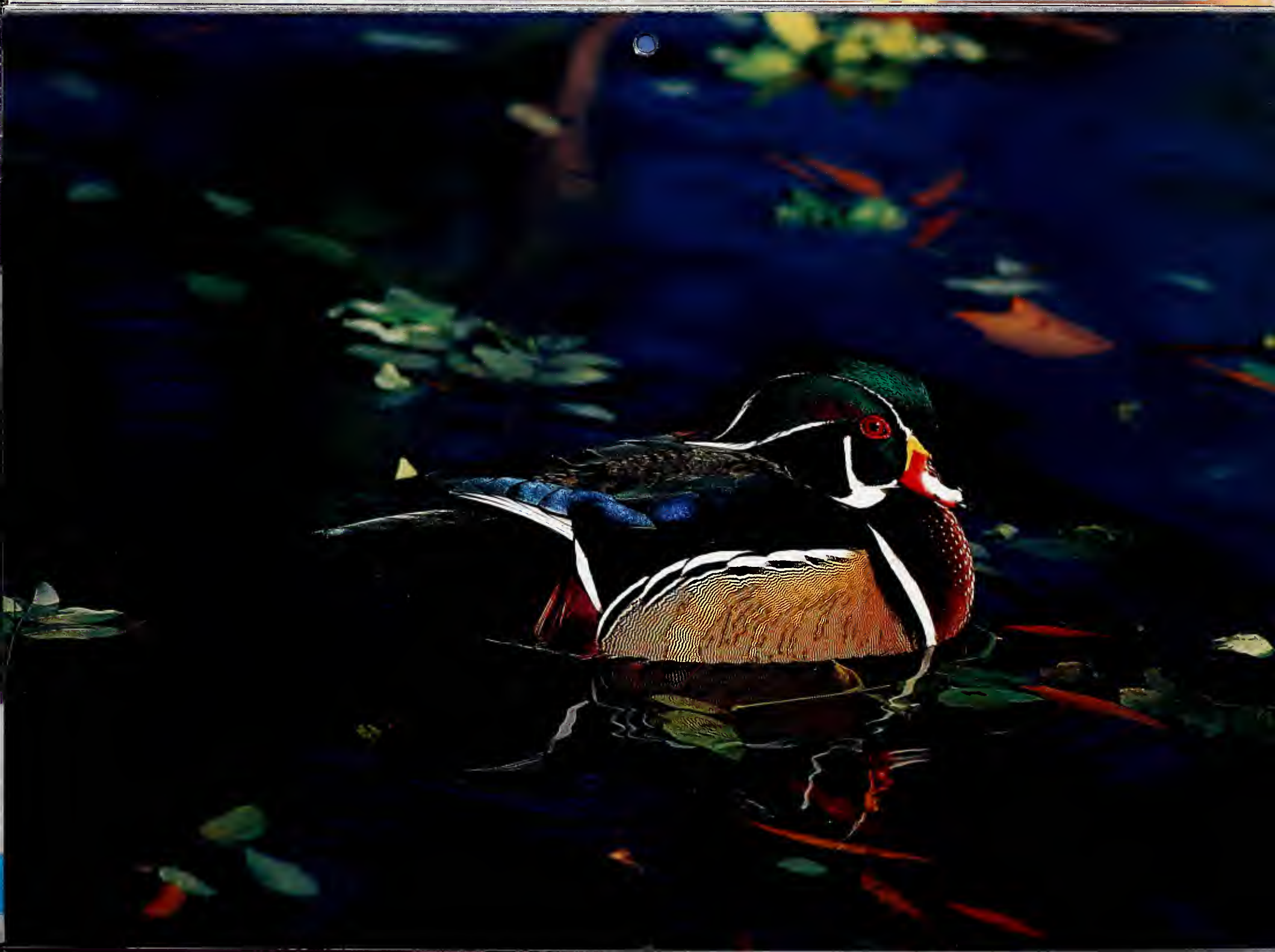

December

Woodduck (*Aix sponsa*) Male
photo by R.E. Ilg

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
November S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	January S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31					1
Garter snakes move to hibernation sites. 2	*Canada Geese begin arriving in the southwest.* 3	4	5	*Upland chorus frogs begin breeding.* 6	PEARL HARBOR DAY *Brown Pelicans begin nesting on Queen Bess island.* 7	*Sheepshead catches increase with low tidal conditions.* 8
Brown pods of the rare wild coco orchid are evident in upland longleaf pine areas. 9	HANUKKAH BEGINS 10	*Begin maintenance of Wood Duck boxes.* 11	*Mole salamanders begin gathering at ponds to breed.* 12	13	NEW MOON 14	*Mistletoe evident in deciduous hardwood trees. Waterdogs move out of cool summer retreats.* 15
Deer rut under way in Areas 1 and 6. 16	17	*Obtain reptile collectors and dealers licenses.* 18	*Purchase 2002 commercial license early.* 19	20	WINTER SOLSTICE 21	22
FULL MOON 23/30 *2001 Commercial license expires*	CHRISTMAS EVE 24/31 NEW YEAR'S EVE	CHRISTMAS DAY 25	*Recycle Christmas trees for marsh management, wildlife cover piles or mulch.* 26	*Christmas bird counts conducted nationwide.* 27	28	29

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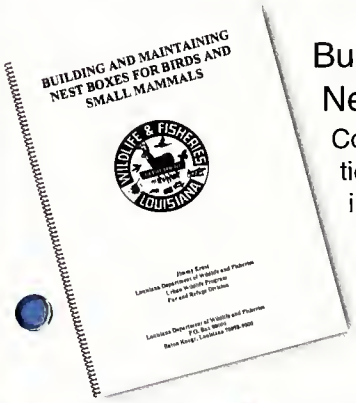

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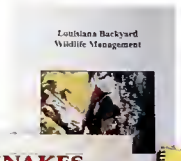

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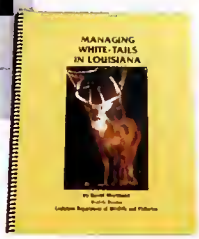

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